BCDI Phase 2

CALL FOR PHD SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

FOR A JOINT DOCTORAL THESIS BETWEEN UNIVERSITE JOSEPH KI-ZERBO, BURKINA FASO AND QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, CANADA

The Canadian International Development Scholarships 2030 (BCDI 2030) program uses higher education to strengthen socio-economic development in 26 developing countries. Funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and implemented by the consortium Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) and Universities Canada (UnivCan), the program offers higher education and technical and vocational training focused on the needs of partner countries in priority areas linked to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Under Stream 1 of the program, fellows from partner countries will receive scholarships for PhD, including study stay for training in Canada before returning to their home countries. Queen's University and Université Joseph Ki-Zerbo are partners in this program.

Queen's University has also awarded funding under the BCDI 2030 Stream 1 program for the project entitled "Innovation and Implementation of Information Technologies for Climate Action in Francophone Sub-Saharan Africa". This project is the result of a partnership between Queen's and Université Joseph Ki-Zerbo (UJKZ) and three (3) other African institutions. Stream 2 (BCDI 2) focuses on institutional partnerships, fostering collaboration between Canadian colleges/universities and institutions in developing nations to enhance capacity. This second project changes the focus from health care to climate action with an emphasis on food and water insecurity. Emphasis on skills in AI, machine learning, and engineering sciences directly related to addressing and mitigating climate change challenges, including climate data analysis. Other major changes from BCDI 1 are the full program of PhD study and extension of research mobility stays from four to eight months.

Queen's University (Kingston, Canada) and the Doctoral School in Informatics for Climate Change (EDICC) at Université Joseph Ki-Zerbo (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso) are pleased to announce

the call for PhD scholarship application in the framework of BCDI 2. Two students will be selected for joint PhD studies at Université Joseph Ki-Zerbo and Queen's University.

PROGRAMME DURATION AND SCHOLARSHIP

The PhD position will start by September 2026 and will last four (04) years with the first 2 years at Queen's and the last 2 years at Université Joseph KI-ZERBO. The selected candidate is expected to have one year of exam preparation phase at Queen's University. The selected candidate must pass the exam before full admission to the PhD program. The two granted students will be registered at both universities for a joint doctoral thesis.
The scholarship includes:

- monthly stipend to cover accommodation and living expenses for the period of studies;
- payment of university fees ;
- research budget;
- health insurance;
- a personal laptop computer for the duration of the PhD program.

ELIGIBILITY

The PhD scholarship targets research related to environmental studies or computer science and climate change. Therefore, candidates applying for this doctoral position must meet the following requirements:

- have a master's degree in informatics for climate change, Computer science, and environmental sciences;
- be proficiency in English Language.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

The application process is handled jointly by the Université Joseph Ki-Zerbo and Queen's University.

The following documents are required for the application with the corresponding names of the files:

Num	Document required	File name
1	Copy of academic master's degree	Degree
2	Master transcript	Transcript (1, 2, 3...)
3	Curriculum Vitae	CV
4	Letter of motivation	Letter-Motiv
5	Letter of recommendation from a reference	Letter-Ref
6	Copy of Certificate of Nationality or State of Origin	CN
7	Research proposal in the field of environmental related studies or computer science	Proposal

8	A copy of English proficiency test or, in alternative, a statement indicating and justifying your self-assessment in the context of English proficiency.	English

Applications must be submitted exclusively through the online application form available at the following link:
https://forms.gle/xstsMjZNWm1jrTCM9

Note that applications sent by email will not be considered.

The email addresses listed below are **strictly for specific questions, requests for information, or clarifications regarding the application process only**:

- **mrp.informcc@gmail.com**
- **contact@edicc.bf**

- All applicants are required to **fully complete and submit the online application form**, including all required supporting documents.
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- **Partially completed applications will be automatically rejected.**
- Each required document must be **attached separately**, as **one single file per document**.
- **An application will only be validated if the online form is fully completed and submitted**, together with all required documents via the link above

DEADLINE:

All applications must be received **by June 30, 2026**. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted and invited for interview.

The Director of EDICC

Prof. Amadé OUEDRAOGO